

The Mount Cook Group's Remarkables Skifield in the Rastus Burn catchment, 10 km from Queenstown, opened in 1985. It offers three chairlifts, one of which was used in the early years of the skifield to transport summer visitors most of the way to a dramatic lookout over the Wakatipu Basin from the brink of the western face.

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The Remarkables may appear prime country for parapenting and hang-gliding but the fact is these aerial forms of recreation are prohibited within three nautical miles (5.5 km) of Frankton Airport. That rules out launching from the western face.



Now only found on dry, sheltered cliffs or overhangs because it has largely been eaten out by stock, the rare native cress ischnocarpus novae zelandiae occurs in the Remarkables.



Up to 25 mm long, the large weevil Lyperobius spedeni is found on various plants of the carrot family in the high-alpine zone. The larvae feed on the roots of the plants, the adults on the flowers and foliage. Photo: Brian Patrick